



MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: Incline VRH & VDT Timber Sale 30-078648 and associated Forest Practice Application No. 2413774, a five unit proposal, plus associated right of way, comprised of 116 net acres of three variable retention harvest units and two variable density thinning units totaling an estimated 3,745 MBF. The proposal includes 2,502 feet of optional construction, 500 feet of required reconstruction, 22,713 feet of required pre-haul maintenance and 1,454 feet of abandonment, if constructed.

Description of mitigation: The following Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) procedures apply: Northern Spotted Owls – This proposal is located in designated Northern Spotted Owl dispersal habitat within the Reese Creek Spotted Owl Management Unit. This timber sale combined with previous timber sales, will not reduce this Spotted Owl Management Unit below 50% threshold, PR 14-004-120,

Marbled Murrelet- This proposal is located within the HCP South Puget Planning Unit, which does not have a Marbled Murrelet Reclassified Habitat model, PR 14-004-320. One polygon was located in the southern portion of Unit 1. The occupancy status of the polygon is unknown but will be treated as occupied since it has not been surveyed for occupancy according to the Pacific Seabird Group protocol. Timing restrictions will be in effect for a portion of Unit #1 within 1/4 mile of the polygon due to the existence of Marbled Murrelet habitat near the sale boundary. The restrictions will apply to all falling and yarding activities and will be in place from April 1 through August 31, lasting from 1 hour before sunrise to 2 hours after sunrise and from 1 hour before sunset to 1 hour after sunset, per WAC 222-30 Timber Harvesting,

Riparian and Wetland Management Zones (RMZs and WMZs) – Reese Creek is protected with a 155 foot buffer. Six Type 4 streams are protected with 100 foot buffers. Three Type 5 streams are protected with 30 foot equipment limitation zones, except at crossing locations approved by the Contract Administrator. One forested wetland is protected with a 200 foot buffer. No harvest will occur within the RMZs or WMZs. All buffers on streams associated with this proposal meet or exceed HCP requirements, PR 14-004-150,

Rain on Snow – This proposal is located within a designated rain on snow zone in sub-basin # 6 within the Reese Creek WAU. Following harvest, the hydrologic mature acre threshold within the sub-basin will still be met, PR 14-004-060,

Slope Stability – There is no evidence of slope instability within the harvest units. Evidence of past natural slope failures, both deep seated and shallow, was found during the analysis using aerial photos and field inspections. Harvest boundaries were located to exclude potentially unstable areas that may deliver sediment or wood debris to public resources, PR 14-004-050,

Retention Trees- Approximately 8 leave trees per acre, larger than 12 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH), will be scattered throughout Units 3, 4 and 5. Following harvest, Units 1 and 2 will be a fully stocked stand with a residual relative density (RD) of 25. Leave trees designated were selected from dominant and co-dominant size class, with Douglas fir being the preferred species. Snags that do not pose a safety hazard will be retained, PR 14-004-210,



Roads – To reduce potential for negative resource impacts during the typical wet season, road construction, rock haul and timber haul will not be permitted from November 1 to May 31, nor on weekends or state recognized holidays unless authority to do so is granted, in writing, by the Contract Administrator. If permission is granted to operate between November 1 and May 31, the Purchaser may be required to provide a "Closed Season Plan" to include further protection of water, soil, roads and other forest assets. The "Closed Season Plan" must be approved in writing by the Contract Administrator. At any time during periods of wet weather, the yarding of timber, road construction and hauling of logs will not be permitted if excessive rutting occurs. Rock for this proposal may come from the state owned Zig Zag Rock Pit, which may be expanded by approximately 0.1 acre.

For specifics on all mitigation measures consult the SEPA document for this proposal.

Proponent: Department of Natural Resources

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: The proposal is located in Sections 3 and 4 both in Township 14 North, Range 6 East, W.M. The Zig Zag Rock Pit is located in Section 2, Township 14 North, Range 6 East, W.M. The haul route is located in the same Sections plus Sections 25, 26, 27 and 36 all in Township 15 North, 6 East, W.M., and Sections 1, 2 and 11 all in Township 14 North, Range 7 East, W.M. The proposal area is located approximately 7 miles south of Ashford in Lewis County. See the associated Forest Practices Application.

Lead agency: Department of Natural Resources

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.

☒ This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from January 19, 2010. Comments must be submitted by February 2, 2010

Responsible official: Randy Acker

Position/title: South Puget Sound Region Manager

Phone: (360) 825-1631

Address: 950 Farman Avenue North, Enumclaw, WA 98022

Date 1/14/10

Signature



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